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SENIOR DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Wednesday, March 30 is the date. This will be our 35th annual Senior Day. It is always insightful — an opportunity to connect with state leaders from both the executive and legislative branches of government.

For several years the pledge of allegiance has been led by persons who have made a significant contribution or are symbolic of significant events in the state and/or national history.

This year we will have two honored guests who were instrumental in the organization of the Senior Lobby and have been actively involved over the decades since inception in 1981. Roger Doherty and Bill Hanna will lead the pledge of allegiance.

We invite anyone who was present at Senior Day any time in the 1980s to participate with Roger and Bill. If you let us know in advance we will include your name in the program. (But advance notice is not necessary).

Legislators notice that we always fill the Old Supreme Court chambers every year.

But this is not enough:

The ageing population needs the active support of those over 65, those caring for loved ones over 65, and those who will one day join the over 65 demographic. This should cover just about everyone.

The projected demographics are clear: the number of people needing assistance is increasing faster than revenue at both the federal and state level. For a Table with demographics data for 2016 and 2031 see page 5.

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LEGISLATION BEGINS WHEN THE FEAR OF DOING NOTHING AT ALL FINALLY TRUMPS THE TERROR OF DOING IT BADLY, OR NOT AT ALL. Paraphrased from Alain De Botton, author

We encourage all attendees of Senior Day at the Capitol to also use this day to talk with your state representatives. You can look at the bills we are following by going to: COLORADOSENIORLOBBY.ORG. Then on the top left click on "GET INVOLVED" The click on Current Bill Sheet.

This will take you to a report showing all the proposed legislation we are tracking, and our current position. This report is updated every 5 minutes and is current with activity at the Capitol.

This report shows the Senior Lobby position, the current status and the next scheduled committee meeting. It also gives direct access to the bill.

Anyone who has difficulty finding our current bill status report should contact us at 303-832-4535.

If anyone is uncomfortable contacting their legislator or testifying at a committee hearing they should contact us and we will provide assistance.

For groups of about 6 or more we will contact your legislators and try to arrange for them to join you at our luncheon held across the street from the Capitol. This is a busy time of year and the legislators are not always available.

CURRENT BILLS WE ARE FOLLOWING (as of February 11, 2016).

HB16-1027: **Support:** CONCERNING DEPOSITIONS IN CRIMINAL CASES IN WHICH AN AT-RISK PERSON MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR TRIAL.

HB16-1047: **Support:** CONCERNING THE ADOPTION OF AN INTERSTATE COMPACT TO ALLOW PHYSICIANS TO BECOME LICENSED IN MULTIPLE STATES THROUGH AN EXPEDITED LICENSURE PROCESS.

HB16-1054: **Monitor:** CONCERNING END-OF-LIFE OPTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH A TERMINAL ILLNESS.

HB16-1065: **Support:** CONCERNING THE CREATION OF AN INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR HOME HEALTH CARE.

HB16-1075 **Strongly Support:** CONCERNING REESTABLISHMENT OF THE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION DESIGNATION BENEFITING THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION FUND THAT APPEARS ON THE STATE INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RETURN FORMS.

HB16-1097: **Strongly Support:** CONCERNING REGULATION OF MEDICAID NONEMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS.

HB16-1102: **Support:** CONCERNING A REQUIREMENT THAT DRUG MANUFACTURERS REPORT PRODUCTION COSTS FOR CERTAIN HIGH-COST PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.

HB16-1127: **Support:** CONCERNING A REQUIREMENT THAT COMMUNITY-CENTERED BOARDS WITHIN THE STATE BE AUDITED BY THE OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR.

HB16-1161:**Support:** CONCERNING THE ALLOCATION OF CERTAIN MONEY THAT EXCEEDS THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ALL WARRANTS ISSUED BY THE STATE TREASURER TO REIMBURSE LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES FOR PROPERTY TAX REVENUES LOST AS A RESULT OF THE APPLICATION OF A CERTAIN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION.

SB16-026 : **Support:** CONCERNING PERSONAL RIGHTS OF PROTECTED PERSONS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, LIMITING THE ABILITY OF A GUARDIAN OR CONSERVATOR TO ISOLATE A PROTECTED PERSON.

SB16-027: **Support:** CONCERNING ALLOWING THE OPTION FOR MEDICAID CLIENTS TO OBTAIN PRESCRIBED DRUGS THROUGH THE MAIL.

SB16-057: **Support:** CONCERNING MOBILE HOME OWNERS WHO LEASE SPACE IN MOBILE HOME PARKS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH , PROTECTING THE MUTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS OF MOBILE HOME OWNERS AND THE OWNERS OF MOBILE HOME PARKS.

(This bill was killed in committee by a no vote by Senators Scott, Sonnenberg and Hill)

SB16-078: **Support with Amendments:** CONCERNING CONTINUING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMINISTRATORS OF ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES.

SB16-085: **Support::** CONCERNING THE "COLORADO UNIFORM TRUST DECANTING ACT".

SJM16-004: **Strongly Support:** This is a Bill that supports the efforts of the State's Congressional Representatives and Senators to revise the Older Americans Act. This keeps being renewed without modification to key provisions. Because Colorado has one of the faster growing older populations this has a negative impact on Federal Funding for the Older Coloradans Fund. (This fund, supports Meals on Wheels, Transportation for Seniors and other programs helping keep Americans in their homes.)

In addition to the proposed legislation noted above the Senior Lobby Legislative Committee is currently monitoring 12 additional bills. At you can see — there is a lot of activity at the Capitol that can benefit Seniors. It is unusual — but so far this year the Senior Lobby is not opposing any legislation.

The State's big budget concern for the next 15 years and beyond is the impact of the aging population on Medicaid.

Medicare does a good job of covering medical expenses once a person turns 65. But it does not cover the cost of a nursing home. The annual cost can be in the range of \$85,000 per year. A portion is paid by the Federal Government, most of a person's pensions are applied to pay for the nursing home and the state picks up approximately \$50,000 per person.

To put it in perspective: a thousand persons in nursing homes would cost the state \$50 million dollars.

To provide for the future and develop a course of action the state in 2015 established the Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging. The Group is charged with developing solutions so the State will be out front in dealing with the upcoming impact of an increasing senior population.

This Group has established committees to cover various topics. The results of these committees will be consolidated into a report that is required to be submitted to the legislature by November 1, 2016. It's not too late to volunteer to serve on one of these committees.

You can follow the progress by visiting the Planning Group's web page:

<https://www.colorado.gov/agingstrategy>

The chief danger in life is that you may take too many precautions.

—Alfred Adler

A danger foreseen is half avoided.

—Thomas Fuller

Just don't give up trying to do what you really want to do. Where there is love and inspiration, I don't think you can go wrong. —Ella Fitzgerald

Wonder is the seed of knowledge.

—Francis Bacon

"Don't you find it odd," she continued, "that when you're a kid, everyone, all the world, encourages you to follow your dreams. But when you're older, somehow they act offended if you even try."

~Ethan Hawke
The Hottest State

Arithmetic is where numbers fly like pigeons in and out of your head.

—Carl Sandburg

The foundation of success in life is good health. That is the substratum fortune; it is also the basis of happiness. A person cannot accumulate a fortune very well when he is sick.

—P. T. Barnum

You don't have to be a wreck. You don't have to be sick. One's aim in life should be to die in good health. Just like a candle that burns out.

—Jeanne Moreau

Colorado Demographer December 20, 2015

Age	Total	Male	Female	60 & older	65 & older	60-64	65-69	70-79	80-89	90+	80-90+
2010											
Total	5,029,196	2,520,662	2,508,534	818,905	549,625	269,280	182,492	224,376	142,757		142,757
Percent of total population				16.3%	10.9%	5.4%	3.6%	4.5%	2.8%		2.8%

2016											
Total	5,538,581	2,768,929	2,769,652	1,196,114	866,625	329,489	273,863	302,960	136,262	8,639	144,901
Percent of total population				21.6%	15.6%	5.9%	4.9%	5.5%	2.5%	0.2%	2.6%

2031											
Total	7,070,083	3,512,938	3,557,145	1,909,925	1,545,534	364,391	340,967	589,369	291,444	16,155	307,599
Percent of total population				27.0%	21.9%	5.2%	4.8%	8.3%	4.1%	0.2%	4.4%

2036											
Total	7,558,609	3,750,503	3,808,106	2,110,933	1,734,451	376,482	351,134	614,735	363,649	20,642	384,291
Percent of total population				27.9%	22.9%	5.0%	4.6%	8.1%	4.8%	0.3%	5.1%

Increase in population -- 2016 to 2036				914,819	867,826	46,993	77,271	311,775	227,387	12,003	239,390
Percent increase since 2016				76.48%	100.14%	14.26%	28.22%	102.91%	166.87%	138.94%	165.21%
Increase in population -- 2016 to 2031				713,811	678,909	34,902	67,104	286,409	155,182	7,516	162,698
Percent increase since 2015				59.68%	78.34%	10.59%	24.50%	94.54%	113.89%	87.00%	112.28%
Increase in population -- 2010 to 2031				1,091,020	995,909	95,111	158,475	364,993	148,687		164,842
Percent increase since 2010				133.2%	181.2%	35.3%	86.8%	162.7%	104.2%		115.5%

Better Than Fences



For 40 years, two friends lived on adjoining farms, separated by a wide creek. One day the friends began to fight over a petty thing and their long friendship fell apart. The misunderstanding grew into bitter words and finally, silence.

Weeks later there was a knock on John's door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter's toolbox. "I'm looking for a bit of work," said the carpenter.

"I have a job for you," said John. "Look across the creek at that farm. That's my neighbor, Albert. We used to be good friends, but that's all over now." John's face twisted into a dejected frown. "See that pile of lumber by the barn? I want you to take that lumber and build me a tall fence, so I won't see his place anymore."

The carpenter said, "I think I understand the situation. Show me the nails and the post-hole digger and I'll do a job that pleases you." John helped the carpenter get the materials ready, and then he went into town, leaving the carpenter to his job.

The carpenter worked hard all that day, and at sunset, the farmer returned. When he saw the work, his jaw dropped.

There was no fence there at all. Instead, there was a bridge stretching from one side of the creek to the other. And coming across, his hand outstretched, was Albert.

"You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I've said and done," called Albert.

The two friends met in the middle, taking each other's hand. They turned to see the carpenter hoisting his toolbox on his shoulder. "No, wait! Stay a few days. I've got other projects for you," said John.

"I'd love to stay on," the carpenter said, "but, I have more bridges to build."

*"You've gotta dance like there's nobody watching,
Love like you'll never be hurt,
Sing like there's nobody listening,
And live like it's heaven on earth."
— William W. Purkey*

Senior Day at The Capitol

Pre-purchase your LUNCH with this Form



When: Wednesday, March 30, 2016

Hosted by Colorado Senior Lobby (CSL)

This event is held in Downtown Denver at The State Capitol



**Senior Day
at
The Capitol
Agenda**

What to expect on Wednesday, March 30, 2016

8:00 – 9:00AM: Continental Breakfast (North 2nd floor mezzanine in The Capitol)

9:00AM – Noon: Main Program - As available, State Legislators will be joining us in the Old Supreme Court Chambers located on the 2nd floor in The Capitol to talk about senior issues and programs.

This is a free event with no reserved seating however priority is given to seniors and the disabled.

Noon – 2:00PM: Lunch Break & Afternoon Program - The afternoon program is at Scottish Rite Masonic Center(SRMC) at 1370 Grant Street, just southeast of The Capitol. Enter at Grant St entrance.

Our lunches must be reserved and paid for by 3-21-16.

Why attend? We can sum that up in 2 words – *Senior Power!*

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preserve Senior Funding• Keep Seniors Safe & Healthy• Meet your Legislators, Elected Officials and Senior Day at The Capitol Sponsors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn about Legislation affecting seniors and improve your skills on advocating on behalf of seniors. The Governor, Speaker of the House, Senate President and your Legislators are all invited (schedules pending).• A box lunch will be available for \$10.00 at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center(SRMC) located at 1370 Grant St, Denver (1 block east of The Capitol on Grant St). You must pre-pay for the lunch.
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QUESTIONS? Call or email Ed Shackelford, President of Colorado Senior Lobby at 303-832-4535 or email president@ColoradoSeniorLobby.org

Lunch Reservations will be taken until March 21, 2016 or maximum capacity is reached.

I (we) plan on attending Senior Day at The Capitol to be held on March 30, 2016

Number of people attending with me: _____

My Name: _____ My Phone: _____

Address, City, State, Zip: _____

Lunch for # of people: ____ at \$10.00 each = \$ _____ Check(s) Enclosed: _____

Number of Assorted Meat(s): ____ Number of Vegetarian Lunch(s): ____ Number of Gluten Free Lunch(s): ____

- Mail Checks for lunches payable to CSL to Colorado Senior Lobby, PO Box 102662, Denver, CO 80250
- You can also register and pay via credit card online at: www.ColoradoSeniorLobby.org
- Please advise us by 3-21-16 of any special services or accessibility needs.

Visit our website for more information www.ColoradoSeniorLobby.org

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Colorado Senior Lobby
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*The ultimate folly is to think that
something crucial to your welfare is being taken
care of for you.*
—Robert Brault, American operatic tenor

“Healthy citizens are the
greatest asset any
country can have.”
— Winston Churchill

Go Green:

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please recycle it by passing it along
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or coworker.

Colorado Senior Lobby — Nonprofit, non-partisan, volunteer organization

MEMBERSHIP: Single \$30 Family \$40 Organization \$75 \$ _____

Organizations: Attach three names and contact information

Additional contribution to support our vision for seniors' quality of life \$ _____

Total (This payment is not tax deductible) \$ _____

Name/Business/Organization: _____

Address: Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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P. O. Box 102662, Denver, CO 80250-2662 DATE: _____

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